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User Group calls:

July 17
August 14
September 18
October 16
November 13
December 11

Leaders calls:

July 10
September 11
November 6
January 8

More information on the User Group calls can be received by signing up for GovDelivery emails.

Hazus-MH: Hurricane Wind Model

The Hazus-MH Hurricane Wind Model gives users the ability to estimate the economic and social losses from hurricane winds. State and local officials can use the information provided by the hurricane model to evaluate, plan for and mitigate the effects of hurricane winds.

The Hazus-MH Hurricane Wind Model makes use of an existing state-of-the-art windfield model, which has been calibrated and validated using full-scale hurricane data. The model incorporates sea surface temperature in the boundary layer analysis, and calculates wind speed as a function of central pressure, translation speed, and surface roughness.

The Hazus-MH Hurricane Wind Model is an improvement over existing loss estimation models because it uses a wind hazard-load-damage-loss framework.

The model addresses wind pressure, windborne debris, duration/fatigue, and rain. It includes the following features:

- A building classification system that depends on the characteristics of the building envelope and building frame

- The capability to compute damage based on building classes and the effects of rain and progressive failure
- The capability to compute damage to contents and building interior
- The capability to estimate tree blow down and structure debris quantities.
- Loss estimates that include direct and indirect economic loss, shelter requirements, and casualties
- Modules that facilitate future assessment of mitigation, benefit-cost, and building code issues

Hazus-MH 2.1 Hurricane Wind Model has new features, including:

- Damage and loss of use functions for hospitals, schools, and fire stations in the Essential Facilities portion of the Hurricane Module
- Updated windfields for several category 4 and 5 historical storms in the Hurricane Module
- Adjusted menu options in the user interface of the three modules in Hazus-MH (Earthquake, Flood & Hurricane) now provide greater consistency

Hazus Highlighted in G20 Publication



Improving the Assessment of Disaster Risks to Strengthen Financial Resilience: A Special Joint G20 Publication by the Government of Mexico and the World Bank

This publication brings together the experiences of G20 countries in protecting their populations and assets against natural hazards. It includes contributions by fifteen G20 members and invited countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Turkey, United Kingdom, and United States), as well as the OECD.

Chapter 16 of the publication, submitted by the United States, focuses on Risk Modeling techniques and Hazus is mentioned as being a powerful multi hazard risk assessment platform, and it also mentions how Hazus runs and the benefits from using it.

This publication is a great read for those interested in seeing what other countries are doing with disaster assessments and the use of Hazus.

Upcoming Training

FY 2012 Training Courses at EMI

E172: Hazus-MH For Flood
July 16-19

E313: Basic Hazus-MH
August 20-23

E296: Application of Hazus-MH for Risk Assessment
September 17-20

To download the course schedule and enroll, visit <http://training.fema.gov/EMICourses/>

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2012 South Carolina Full Scale Exercise

SCHUG Provides Information on Using Hazus to Create a Hurricane Scenario



South Carolina 2012 Full Scale Exercise, June 5 - 7

Hazus was used to create the scenario for the 2012 South Carolina Full Scale Exercise (FSE). The scenario for the FSE was based on the Hurricane Gracie track, which was modified by planners in order to investigate the effects of a southward hurricane track along the Savannah River. These modifications allowed planners to understand potential damage in the low country of South Carolina and along the western and upstate counties.

The track was originally created in Hurrevac, but the wind data and points along the track were pulled into Hazus manually.

Hazus was run for the entire state of South Carolina, with individual runs for each county. This created reports tailored to each county's overall losses. All of the information was shared with partners who created the injects for the exercise.

Recovery Exercise, July 18

For the upcoming recovery exercise on July 18th, Hazus will be used again to set the stage for short and long term recovery. Planners have pulled in the debris estimations, essential facility loss of use analysis, people seeking shelter, and the damage estimates to determine the issues that would arise within the first 30 days.

For the long term recovery, planners are focusing on the homes that experienced moderate to complete damage, displaced households, and overall damage to determine how to move forward with the recovery process. South Carolina is looking forward to exploring the issues of long-term housing, economic recovery, and the rebuild/revitalization of the impacted areas.

For more information on South Carolina's use of Hazus, contact Melissa Berry Potter, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, SC Emergency Management Division, and the SCHUG leader, at mberry@emd.sc.gov.

Connecting with the Hazus Community

Staying Up-To-Date On Hazus Is Easy!

There are many ways to connect with the Hazus community and to stay up-to-date with Hazus information and current events. Growing the number of Hazus users is essential, and using multiple outreach channels is a great way to help users stay current and provide resources to them for questions and comments.

The monthly **User Group calls** are a great way to involve users from all over the country and to provide updates from different groups and Regions. **Podcasts** from the calls are located on the iTunes Podcast page under "Hazus Community" and are an easy way to get information from previous calls.

GovDelivery is another way to stay connected, and is a widely used Government communications mailing list. This channel is used to send Hazus updates. To sign up for emails, visit public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSFEMA/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDHSFEMA_122.

LinkedIn has a group titled "Hazus" that allows members to participate in discussions, receive Hazus information, and ask Hazus-related questions. To find out more about the group, go to www.linkedin.com/groups/HAZUS-822417. You need a free LinkedIn account to join the discussion and follow the group.